I claim:

1.   A method of converting an internet international domain name to an RFC1035 compliant format, where the international domain name includes non-English characters which are RFC1035 non-compliant, the method comprising:

5   intercepting the international domain name;

transforming the international domain name to an RFC1035 compliant domain name; and

automatically appending the redirector string to the RFC1035 compliant domain name where the redirector string directs resolution of the RFC1035 compliant domain

10   name to a domain name server.

2.   The method of converting as set forth in claim 1 further including automatically generating the redirector string based on the RFC1035 compliant domain name.

15

3.   The method of converting as set forth in claim 1 further including automatically generating the redirector string based on a predetermined top level domain string.

20   4.   The method of converting as set forth in claim 1 wherein the intercepting is transparent to a user.

5.   The method of converting as set forth in claim 1 further including obtaining the international domain name on a user system and, the intercepting occuring

25   at a network layer in the user system.

6.   The method of converting as set forth in claim 5 wherein the intercepting occurs in a Windows socket layer.

7. The method of converting as set forth in claim 6 wherein if the Windows socket layer includes a name space provider that performs the intercepting and transforming.

8. The method of converting as set forth in claim 1 further including, after the intercepting, converting the international domain name to a UNICODE string if the international domain name is not in a UNICODE format, and wherein the transforming includes transforming the UNICODE string to the RFC1035 compliant domain name.

9. A method for enabling a user device to be connected to an Internet address where a domain name request originates in a non-compliant format, comprising the steps of:

transforming the non-compliant domain name request to a converted domain name in a compliant format, the transforming being transparent to a user; and

automatically appending a redirector string to said transformed compliant domain name which includes information for directing the compliant domain name to a domain name server that resolves the compliant domain name such that the user device is connected to an Internet address corresponding to the compliant domain name.

10. The method for enabling as set forth in claim 9 further including automatically generating the redirector string based on the compliant domain.

11. The method of claim 9 further including automatically generating the redirector string based on a predetermined top level domain.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said step of appending said redirector string to said compliant domain name produces a fully qualified domain name.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein said transforming step comprises the step of converting the non-compliant domain name to a UNICODE string.

16

14.   A software program for enabling a user device to be connected to the Internet wherein domain name requests in the user device are obtained having a non-compliant format; said program comprising:

instructions for transforming a non-compliant domain name request to a

5   compliant domain name request; and

instructions for automatically appending a redirector string to the compliant domain name request which includes information for directing the compliant domain name request to a domain name server.

10   15.   The software program as set forth in claim 14 further including instructions for automatically generating the redirector string based on the compliant domain name request.

16.   The software program as set forth in claim 14 further including

15   instructions for automatically generating the redirector string based on a predetermined string.

17.   The software program as set forth in claim 14 further including instructions for modifying a domain name resolving process in the user device, where the

20   modified domain name resolving process transforms the non-compliant domain name request to a compliant format.

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17